

Category #5:

Products must not contain compounds that persist or bio-accumulate in human or animal tissue or in the environment.

State Response:

Third party certification groups that subscribe to ecolabelling principles, such as Canada's Environmental Choice and Green Seal, require that products should be readily biodegradable. OGS has incorporated these ecolabelling principles for the selection of environmentally sensitive cleaning products. Therefore, organic ingredients must be readily biodegradable according to OGS criteria. Most organic chemicals that are readily biodegradable will not bioaccumulate. OGS would support a review and revision of the criteria to see if they can be further improved while still allowing for reasonable variety and innovation in the market.

Frequently Asked Public Comment:

Bioaccumulation of Chemicals: (A) Persistent or Bio-accumulating Compounds; (B) Biodegradability

--The OGS/Green Seal guidelines do not address the potential bioaccumulation of certain chemicals.
(Deirdre Imus, Founder and President, The Deirdre Imus Environmental Center for Pediatric Oncology, Hackensack University Medical Center, The David Joseph Jurist Research Center For Tomorrows Children, Hackensack, NJ 07601)

--Must not contain compounds that persist or bio-accumulate in human or animal tissue or in the environment (Apply to Tier I Products).
(Deirdre Imus, Founder and President, The Deirdre Imus Environmental Center for Pediatric Oncology, Hackensack University Medical Center, The David Joseph Jurist Research Center For Tomorrows Children, Hackensack, NJ 07601)

--Should be readily biodegradable at greater than 90% in thirty days without the need of being run through a municipal effluent treatment process. If not biodegradable due to inorganic content the ingredient must be chemically inert (Apply to Tier I Products).
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